FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 APRIL 1984

Sudan

President Ja'far Numayri issued a decree declaring a "state of emergency" throughout Sudan, suspending several articles of the Constitution, and banning public gatherings, Omdurman radio announced. In another decree Numayri made the Armed Forces responsible for maintaining security and order, SUNA reported. In an address to the nation carried by SUNA, the president stated that "enemies at home and abroad" are intensifying their offensive against the government, adding that various parties and groups have overcome their differences and contradictions and united to "down the lofty banner of Islam." These groups are motivated by the "red communist Marxist-Leninist banner," he said, and are supported by the states which they serve as "agents."

Israel

Jerusalem police located and defused explosive charges planted in seven buses owned by an Arab company and arrested 15 suspects believed to be members of a Jewish underground organization held responsible for placing the bombs and for other terrorist attacks against Arab targets, according to Jerusalem radio and television. The secret organization includes settlers from "Judaea, Samaria, and the Golan Heights," the reports said. A senior IDF reserves officer and a Gush Emunim leader are among those detained. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir denounced those responsible for the attempted sabotage during the weekly cabinet meeting, asserting that a tragedy that would have cast Israel in a "very grim light" was "miraculously" prevented, IDF Radio reported.

In another development the Defense Ministry announced in a statement carried by ITIM the military censor's decision to temporarily suspend publication of *HADASHOT* for publishing a report without submitting it for prior approval. The "severe measures" against the paper followed its publication of a 27 April report revealing the defense minister's decision to appoint a commission of inquiry into the fate of the terrorists who hijacked a bus near Ashdod, Jerusalem radio noted.

Egypt

Foreign Policy — Israel's withdrawal from Sinai can be considered only as a first step toward a comprehensive peace, but there is "no real value" in this first step unless further steps are taken to achieve permanent peace, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali declared in a statement broadcast by Cairo radio. He stressed that a permanent settlement must be based on Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied after 5 June 1967.

Arrest of Fundamentalists — Security police recently discovered a new group of the "Society of Repudiation and Renunciation" and arrested 52 of its members, MENA disclosed.

Relations With Libya — Egyptair and Libyan Arab Airlines have agreed to reopen the air route linking Cairo with Tripoli and Banghazi, MENA reported citing *AL-AHRAM*. However, JANA said *AL-AHRAM*'s report was "unfounded and cannot be contemplated" in light of Egypt's "disgraceful ties with the Zionist enemy."

Libya

The time has come for Libya to "reciprocate" in its dealings with Britain, now that it has been determined that Britain "protects terrorism" and Libya's enemies, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi declared during a meeting with the staff of the Libyan People's Bureau in London following their return to Tripoli, JANA reported. Al-Qadhdhafi expressed "regret" over the severing of relations between Libya and the UK. In another report Libyans deported from Britain complained of harassment and "brutal" searches by British police, JANA alleged.

Lebanon

Political Situation — The new government will seek a "just state" capable of establishing security, reform the Army so that it will have everyone's confidence, and work to liberate the south by all means, Prime Minister-designate Rashid Karami announced in Tripoli in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio on 29 April. Karami had earlier completed parliamentary consultations in Beirut and had told journalists in a statement broadcast by the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio that he has "no deadline" and will take his time in forming the new cabinet.

In Syria a *TISHRIN* editorial reviewed by Damascus radio stressed the need for an immediate solution to the Lebanese problem and urged that "the Lebanese file" be closed as soon as possible so that Syria can "move on and accomplish its other pan-Arab tasks in other areas," notably the destruction of the Camp David accords.

Security Situation — Intermittent clashes continued across the contact lines in Beirut over the weekend with 1 person killed and 40 others wounded in the fighting on 28 April, Beirut radio reported. An Amal Movement source cited by the radio blamed the Lebanese Army in East Beirut for the clashes, but the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said the Army was responding to attacks launched from West Beirut.

In the south three Israeli soldiers were wounded by a bomb explosion south of An-Nabatiyah on 27 April, and an IDF patrol killed two "terrorists" trying to plant another roadside bomb the following evening, according to Jerusalem radio and an IDF announcement carried by ITIM. Beirut radio reported that nine civilians were wounded in clashes with the IDF in the village of Al-Bisariyah.

PLO Affairs

The next intra-Palestinian meeting in Algiers will take place on 9 May and will be an expanded one, including all those who support "independent Palestinian decisionmaking," PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said in a speech broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir, in an interview with the Jordanian newspaper *AD-DUSTUR*, expressed optimism on reaching agreement at the meeting but ruled out the possibility that the Syrians or "dissidents" might attend, calling such reports "premature." Al-Wazir described the recent Algiers meeting as a "good start" and expressed confidence that the upcoming meeting would yield "quick" results.

Meanwhile, the spokesman for the DFLP-PFLP Joint Command claimed the two fronts were launching joint efforts to resolve internal differences and reconcile the PLO and Syria, KUNA revealed. However, in another KUNA report, the PFLP assistant secretary general renewed his front's call for 'Arafat's removal from the PLO chairmanship, stating that any agreement with the Fatah Central Committee must include "a clear answer concerning the removal of Yasir 'Arafat." The PFLP official said that, although it was difficult to be optimistic about the possibility of agreement with the Fatah Central Committee, the front will not abandon dialogue.

Inter-Arab Affairs

During a brief visit to Riyadh on 29 April, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz conveyed a message to King Fahd from President Saddam Husayn dealing with bilateral relations, current Arab issues, and problems of common concern, INA reported.

YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih held talks with Saddam Husayn in Baghdad and subsequently flew to Saudi Arabia for further talks, according to INA and SPA.

Iran-Iraq War

A communique broadcast by Baghdad radio announced that the Iraqi Navy destroyed three "enemy naval targets" between Khark Island and Bandar-e Khomeyni on 27 April. Monitored Iranian media did not mention the Iraqi action. Communiques broadcast by Tehran radio stated that Iranian aircraft destroyed an Iraqi missile launcher and radar system on 27 April and shot down an Iraqi MIG-23 the following day. An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA denied that a MIG was shot down, asserting that Iraqi aircraft flew no sorties on 28 April.

Meanwhile, Iranian Oil Ministry experts extinguished the fire on the Saudi tanker recently set ablaze south of Khark Island, according to an Oil Ministry statement reported by IRNA. Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in a Friday sermon broadcast by Tehran radio, said it is "highly probable" the tanker was hit by a missile and he warned the Iraqis that such incidents will not stampede Iran into seizing the Strait of Hormuz so that "what they want will happen." Iran knows the right time and proper means to use in responding, he asserted. Hashimi-Rafsanjani also denied a British newspaper report that Iran will produce an atomic bomb within 2 years, saying it is "not clear whether we are going to have an atomic bomb so soon."

Iran

Turkish Premier's Visit — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal held talks in Tehran with his Iranian counterpart, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, on ways to expand commercial and economic relations and important regional issues, Tehran radio reported. Ozal announced Turkey's desire for improved transportation and communications links and its willingness to construct an Iran-Turkey gas pipeline.

In an earlier statement reported by IRNA, Ozal expressed hope that Iran would take necessary measures to protect Turkish Embassy personnel. Armenian terrorists had shot and killed a Turkish diplomat in Tehran shortly before Ozal's arrival on 28 April, according to Ankara radio. The Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia claimed responsibility for the shooting in telephone calls to AFP, describing the action as a protest against Ozal's "criminal" visit to Iran.

Khomeyni on Elections — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, in a 29 April speech broadcast by Tehran radio, warned that "the hands of foreigners" are conspiring to create conflicts between winners and losers in the Iranian elections.

Afghanistan

Kabul radio announced that the head of Army political affairs inspected DRA Government troops in Panjsher district on 29 April and congratulated them on their "victories and successful performance" of their combat duties. The radio also reported that government forces killed 76 "counterrevolutionary" elements in a recent operation in the Qandahar region. Soviet bombing of villages near Qandahar has caused a new influx of refugees into Pakistan, according to sources cited by AFP.

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Officials Inspect, Congratulate Troops in Panjsher

LD300003 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] Warm greetings and best wishes from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, were conveyed by Brigadier General Mohammad Yasin Sadeqi, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of army political affairs, to the troops, NCO's, and officers of the Army who have successfully performed combative operations in Panjsher.

Brig Gen Sadeqi, accompanied by 'Abdul Samad Qayyumi, minister of education and training, this morning arrived in Panjsher district and visited various parts of that district.

Brig Gen Sadeqi inspected Army unit posts on the peaks of thePanjsher mountains and spoke to the brave soldiers of those posts. He congratulated them on their victories and successful performance of their combative duties.

Brig Gen Sadeqi gave necessary instruction to the commanders and political officers concerning better literacy and political work in the posts and welfare of the soldiers.

The minister of education and training met the Panjsher district governor and the secretary of the Panjsher party committee and spoke to them on affairs and activities concerning schooling in Panjsher.

Former King Issues Appeal on Soviet Attack

AU271923 Rome ANSA in English 1905 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, April 27 — The former king of Afghanistan, Zahir Shah, launched an appeal today to all freedom-loving people to help the Afghan resistance repel a massive Soviet attack in the Panjsher Valley.

In a statement released here where the former monarch lives in exile, the king said, "I want to express my anguish to freedom fighters in the Panjsher and to all my heroic patriots who are suffering under inhuman Soviet attacks."

Zahir Shah said he is convinced the Soviets will not permanently conquer the valley despite the use of "thousands of troops, hundreds of tanks and aircraft indiscriminately bombing the civilian population."

The exiled king said that often in the past the Soviets tried unsuccessfully to occupy "the beautiful and strategically important valley."

He added that the Afghan resistance is not limited to that area but is spread throughout the country and it will not lay down arms until the nation has been completely liberated.

Zahir Shah lashed out at Moscow's "duplicity," saying "it says it wants negotiations and then it tries to annihilate the Afghan people."

The former king called on the people of the world to "focus their attention on the suffering of a nation that is making enormous sacrifices on behalf of its faith, its independence and its freedom."

Observers see the appeal as a sign that Zahir Shah is once again playing an important role in the fight against the Soviet occupation after years of silent exile.

Last summer the former king summoned to Rome the leaders of the Afghan resistance and urged them to join forces in a single organization all the groups have yet agreed to the proposal. [sentence as received]

AFP Reports No Information on Masud

BK291318 Hong Kong AFP in English 1302 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] Islamabad, April 29 (AFP) — Stepped-up Soviet air strikes around the southern Afghan city of Qandahar has sent a new influx of refugees into Pakistan's Baluchistan Province, well-informed sources said today. A spokesman for the Afghan resistance said in Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan, that 1,500 families had fled their villages over the past two weeks as a result of the bombing. Other resistance sources said 4,000 people, mostly women, had left the district of Arghandab, east of Qandahar. The Pakistani office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) confirmed a recent wave of refugees from southern Afghanistan but gave no details.

Refugees said the latest bombing appeared aimed at forcing an evacuation of the civilian population which the Soviets suspect of providing food and shelter to guerrillas in the area. Habibullah Karzai, a leading Afghan observer living in Quetta, said MIG jets would strike in the morning and evening every three days in an apparent effort to convince the local population to leave their homes. A total of 710,000 Afghans have taken refuge in Baluchistan and nearly two million have fled to the Northwest Frontier Province, according to official Pakistani figures, generally considered exagerated in an effort to boost humanitarian aid coming into the country.

Mr. Karzai said the Soviets had also stepped up commando operations aimed at halting the flow of weapons, ammunition and other supplies from Pakistan to insurgents in southern and central Afghanistan. He said Soviet troops had carried out effective night ambushes on the supply convoys. Other sources in Quetta said the operations had led to a halt in commerical traffic on the road linking the city with Qandahar.

Pakistani authorities were expecting a significant increase in the number of refugees from Afghanistan in coming weeks as a result of the current Soviet offensive in the Panjsher Valley north of Kabul.

An official at the Afghan Embassy here today said he was unable to confirm a report from Kabul's Embassy in New Delhi that the resistance leader in Panjsher, Ahmad Shah Masud, 30, had been captured early in the offensive, which began April 22. Hamidullah Rehmani, second secretary at the Embassy here, told report

ers he had received no information from Kabul about Mr. Masud's alleged capture.

In Peshawar, the headquarters of the main resistance groups said no message had been received from Mr. Masud since the start of the Soviet drive, the seventh offensive to be launched against the strategic valley.

Army Mounts Successful Operation in Qandahar
LD271542 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] The officers and courageous men of Qandahar Army Corps recently mounted a successful operation near Jaldak and in the region of [word indistinct] of this province. As a result, 76 counterrevolutionary elements were killed and 10 of these terrorists and murderers, including two of their ringleaders — (Mohammad Zai) and (Mohammad Tahir) — were arrested.

As a result of this operation, (?25) rocket launchers, two artillery pieces, 38 weapons, 3 DShK's, 29 rockets, 14 artillery shells, and 7,300 rounds of ammunition were seized.

A group of counterrevolutionaries, belonging to the so-called Islami band, were crushed in (Dowlat Abad) District, Balkh Province, by the security forces. A number of them and their ringleaders, (Sayd Mohammad) and (Ma'lem Nader) were arrested. Also, 32 weapons, 1 rocket launcher, and 2,000 rounds of ammunition were seized.

'Counterrevolutionaries' Routed in Herat
LD291513 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] As a result of recent operations carried out by the country's vigilant security forces in (Diwancha), (Naw Shahr), (Abowalid) and (Hawz-e Karbas) villages of Enjil District, Herat Province, 40 counterrevolutionary elements were killed and 30 captured.

Some 16 light weapons, 1,900 various types of ammunition, 16 anti-ank mines, 20 automatic rifle magazines, 100 rounds of DShK ammunition, 1 box of medicine, 2 motorcycles, and a quantity of propaganda leaflets and documents were seized from these criminals by the security forces.

Karachi Reports on Herat-Qandahar Fighting
BK291030 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have attacked a military convoy on Herat-Qandahar Highway on the 22d of this month. A number of military vehicles and tanks were damaged. The report says 43 Soviet-Karmal troops were killed and injured in the attack. According to the report, the following day three bridges were blown up and the power supply to Jalalabad City was disconnected by the mujahidin.

Karmal's Revolution Anniversary Address
LD271035 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of PDPA Central Committee and chairman of DRA Revolutionary Council, at meeting on revolution anniversary held at Revolutionary Council headquarters on 25 April — recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrades, friends, (?women), and people of the country: Six years ago, a new stage began in the ancient and proud history of our country. Our people broke the dictatorial, militarily oppressive, bureaucratic, and feudal yoke and foiled the imperialist plan to transform Afghanistan into its obedient servant.

Land and water gradually are being given to those who produce the sacred bread. Our country is the only country in the region where taxes are not increasing and government assistance is being given to the low paid and to the needy strata. We have decided to increase the wages and salaries of workers, employees, and civil servants by an average of 18 percent. [applause]

This wage increase will amount to 1.3 billion afghanis. The wage increase for lower rank employees will be 22-34 percent depending on their rank and grade.

To assist the peasants, the peasants' debts in connection with the price of [word indistinct] land more than 1 jerib in areas which had earlier been bought by the peasants, have been exempted from repayment in accordance with Revolutionary Council Presidium Decree No 17 dated 24 April 1984. [applause]

The party and government will take the necessary serious measures for the rational regulation of prices and their control in government and private sectors as well as improvement in the supply of commodities needed by the people. We have access to all necessary sources of foodstuffs and industrial goods so we can solve these problems in the interest of the overwhelming majority of the people.

All these measures show that the party and government are paying attention to and seriously considering the Afghan workers and our words correspond to our deeds. [applause]

However, these are the first steps. If we have not been able to give to our people more, it is the unforgiveable fault of the armed counterrevolutionaries who, relying on the assistance and inhuman and evil support of imperialism, hegemonism, and the black reaction of the region, are striving to return the entire wealth of our country to a handful of feudals, reactionaries and their lackeys.

When the PDPA took power, it only had 18,000 members. Since the revolution, the number of party members increased many times and now in its ranks there are 150,000 full and candidate members.

The sold-out and wicked mercenaries of imperialism make party members their primary easy targets. So far, thousands of our comrades have been martyred by the dirty and evil hands of the

counterrevolutionaries. What are the (?results). The barbaric crimes of the counterrevolutionaries do not bring about fear but arouse the hatred and revolusion of the people.

Therefore, the most important and most vital issue is that of unity, iron discipline and consolidation of the party, and eradication of whatever prevents the accomplishment of its lofty mission as the leading force of the toiling people. This has been and will be at the center of our attention.

I must say explicitly that perception of the party's great responsibility toward the toilers and the efforts for the unity, organizational cohesion of its ranks, and undeviated and complete accomplishment of [word indistinct] duties do not exist throughout the party at the same level and sufficiently.

We must take care that serious hard work and struggle are continued and must be continued without interruption and continuously for the progress and evolution of the party of new lines of the working class and all toilers of the country.

Allow me now to speak about the features of sovereignty in our country and the evolution of democracy in the national and democratic stage of the revolution. It is now important to broaden the expansion of the revolutionary sovereignty in the regions and to secure their consolidation. It should be stated explicitly that so far many successes have not been achieved and fundamental transformations have not taken place in this regard. The resistance of the enemies not only prevent this but the lack of ability of the organizational structure of our party and of ourselves, passivity, taking things easy, slowness in accomplishing the revolutionary duties, spiritual revolutionary weaknesses, coordination weaknesses in some sections of the Armed Forces, units of the revolution defense, local self-defense units, and other party and government organizations, ineffective tactics, not going into the depth of the masses of the people, inadequate propaganda, popularization, and training work are all obstacles on this path.

Most people blame this on the inadequate experience of party, government, and military cadres. However, we cannot agree with this reason. During the past 6 years, sufficient experience has been gathered in the revolutionary struggle to enable the envisaged duties to be accomplished with success.

We have the right to demand from our cadres more resolute activities and specific results. It is high time to upgrade all of our tasks to a new and higher level and be [word indistinct] in the accomplishment of duties. The PDPA regards this as the order of the day and sees the raising of the level of demands, responsibilities for the allotted tasks, order and discipline, as the most important duty of the party and government organs. It emphasizes that this (?task) is not temporary; it is our political policy to pay attention to securing the unity of the party's words and deeds and to pay attention to creating conditions for complete success.

Of course, we should explicitly state that we are not going to make deals, compromises, or agreements with the counterrevolutionaries relentlessly and irreconcilably for total and resolute victory. With patience, perseverance, tolerance, andcontinuity and without deviation, we are forging ahead relentlessly to achieve this great objective. [applause]

All patriots of Afghanistan, all toiling Muslims of the country, all earnest representatives of the nationalities, tribes, and clans of the country can accomplish their part in this noble task and find their position in the sacred land of our motherland, our fatherland, the new revolutionary Afghanistan. [applause]

All those who as a result of intimidation, deception, and ignorance have formed an antinational front against their ancestors' land must perceive the imminent defeat and historic failure of the counterrevolutionary activities. Once again, I confirm that those who perceive their mistakes and resolutely break away from the bandits, murderers, robbers, and U.S., British, Pakistani, Iranian, Chinese, and reactionary Arab spies and come on the side of the people and their revolution can be confident that they can find again their homeland and [word indistinct] work for their homeland and family and can enjoy freedom of activities. The warm bosom of the motherland is open to them.

The results of the year ended 21 March show that we are better off than in the past. We can solve economic major problems with more confidence and continuity, and further [word indistinct] competence. For example, despite all difficulties and obstacles created by the sworn enemies of the people and homeland, gross national production and national income have reached the level of the time prior to the revolution. This means that in the year ended 21 March, for the first time, we succeeded in supplying more commodities and services. Industrial production amounted to 88.5 billion afghanis.

We have at our disposal all necessary possibilities to meet all the needs and requirements of our country's toilers in a short time and in a better and improved manner and at a high level and to extend them to a high level. [as heard]

It is a fact that all the efforts of the armed counterrevolutinaries and their foreign supporters are facing defeat in creating disorder and subversion in the country's economic life. It must be explicitly stated that in this regard, we are extremely grateful to the noble and disinterested assistance of our friend and elder brother the USSR. [applause] Our fraternal commercial relations and other economic relations are developing further with success and in great volume. The total volume of CEMA's assistance to Afghanistan forms 93 percent of the total foreign assistance. The share of the USSR forms 73 percent of all foreign assistance.

Praise to the toiling peasants, progressive intelligentsia, fighting officers, and men of the country who by their revolutionary work and struggle are improving and consolidating the economy and defense capability of our country, which despite the seditious propaganda of reaction and imperialism has been enhanced qualitatively and quantitively many times compared to the year prior to the revolution for the defense of peace and revolution, for the defense of freedom and national sovereignty, and for the defense of the interests of the country's toilers.

The PDPA and the DRA Government time and again have said that they want to normalize their relations with the neighboring countries, Pakistan and Iran, and those friendly relations should be based on good-neighborliness. To do this, it is required that the Pakistani and Iranian Governments use good sense, perceive the present situation, refrain from interference in the internal

affairs of the DRA, and express their readiness to sit around the table for talks to solve the present problems.

In this connection, I repeat again that we have full and resolute determination to reach a peaceful solution to the events around Afghanistan. The method for reaching this solution is embodied in the DRA proposals dated 14 May 1980 and 24 August 1981.

The DRA will always show appropriate flexibility in the solution of issues, but will never deviate from its principled and just stand. [applause]

This stand is based on the fact that the foundations of the solution are: to halt the undeclared war against the DRA, to stop all interference in our internal affairs, and to provide satisfactory international guarantees for noninterference and nonaggression in our country. Only such an approach can lead to a complete and durable political solution.

The efforts of Mr Cordovez, personal representative of the UN secretary general, toward a political solution of the events around Afghanistan have been assessed as very useful in Afghanistan. We want later rounds of talks to bring about tangible results and push forward the process of reaching agreement. At the same, it is necessary to recall once again that reaching a political solution would have been much speedier if the interested parties had embarked on direct talks.

The DRA, as a peace-loving country, regards it as its first duty to follow relentlessly the policy of denouncing, resolutely rejecting, and openly exposing the strivings of imperialism, headed by the warmongering U.S. imperialism, regarding the intensification of the international situation, disturbing the balance of power, fanning up the arms race, and imposing its will on other peoples through interference in the internal affairs and even direct aggression.

For this reason, the DRA sides with the peace-loving forces who are striving to create a barrier to the lunatic and adventurist policy of those who lead the world to nuclear disaster. At the head of the peace-loving forces is the USSR — the country of great Lenin.

Long live the DRA, long live the PDPA, the party of the working class and all toilers of Afghanistan.

Long live the April Revolution, long live all emancipating revolutions of the world's toiling masses.

Barialay Receives Kazakhstan Deputy Chairman

LD290511 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] Kabul, April 28, Bakhtar — Mahmud Barialay, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, met with S.Z. Zhanybekov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Kazakhstan Republic, in his office today.

Barialay also had a meeting with the delegates of vocational unions of the Soviet Union peace defence committee and the committee of solidarity of the Soviet Union with the Afro-Asian countries.

During these meetings, they exchanged views on matters of mutual interest.

Ershad: Elections on Basis of Suspended Constitution

BK301111 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] President Ershad has said that the next elections will be held on the basis of the suspended Constitution. Addressing a public meeting in old Dhaka today, he said that the country's administration will run by maintaining its consistency with the provisions of the suspended Constitution.

The president pointed out that the suspended Constitution is the holy trust of the people and it reflects their views and opinions. Only the people can amend the Constitution.

Referring to the political process with the objective of restoring democracy in the country, he said that it gradually will help to restore democracy. He said he is fully resolved to establish peace and discipline in the society through the administration of the people.

Emphasizing the need for peace and discipline, the president said that when the government itself is making all possible efforts to do everything for the working people, there is no need to hold strikes. He said the doors of the government are always open to discuss the problems of the workers and to find solutions for them.

The president said that he is making all possible efforts for the development of the educational institutions and increase the benefits and opportunities for the students. These efforts will be successful if the students turn out to be befitting citizens of the country.

Amidst repeated applause and slogans, the president declared that Bangladesh will not accept the barbed wire fences at its border. He emphasized: We are Muslims, and we do not bow before anyone but Almighty God.

The minister for local government, cooperatives, and religious affairs, Mahbubur Rahman, and the administrator of the Dhaka Municipal Corporation, Major General (Mahamudeen Hassan), were also present on that occasion.

Alliance-Government Meeting Postponed 1 Day

BK290937 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 0900 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] The meeting of the joint committee of the government and the 15-party alliance scheduled for today will now be held tomorrow. During the third round of talks between the government and the alliance on 21 April, it was decided to set up a committee with representatives from both sides to formulate the modalities of lifting of martial law and to examine the sovereignty of the Parliament.

Special assistant to the president, A.R. Yusuf, talking to newsmen at Banga Bhavan today, said that the president has already appointed 9 members for this committee while the alliance has nominated 18 members.

In reply to a question, Yusuf said that the president is keenly interested in concluding the dialogue as soon as possible. He added that the president is expected to make an announcement by the 1st week of next month on the outcome of the dialogue between the government and political leaders on important national issues.

AFP: 7-Party Alliance Wants To Call Off Dialogue

BK281219 Hong Kong AFP in English 0953 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Dhaka, April 28 (AFP) — A seven-party alliance has told President Hussain Mohammed Ershad that it would not continue its current dialogue with the government unless a definite date for parliamentary elections was announced.

The statement came from the alliance's chief, Begum Khaleda Zia, yesterday at a public meeting at Narayanganj, an inland port town near here.

Begum Zia had earlier given the military regime a deadline that her seven-party alliance would break off talks with the government if it failed to announce a date for parliamentary elections and take steps to lift martial law to ensure a quick transition to democracy.

"We want to call off the dialogue bocause it is useless and designed to buy time for the military regime," she told the public meeting.

Begum Zia, the wife of assassinated President Ziaur Rahman, warned that the alliance would renew its mass protest campaign if its demands were not met.

Meanwhile, the other major opposition grouping, a 15-party alliance which is scheduled to have its next round of talks with the government tomorrow, has asked the military regime to withdraw martial law by May 1.

Efforts To End Trade Union Strike Noted

BK291224 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] The government regrets that, although sincere efforts are being made to meet the demands of the workers and employees, the joint council formed by the 13 trade union federation has called for a general strike and created difficulties for public life. A handout issued in Dhaka this evening says: The government feels that the strike will deteriorate the law and order situation, disrupt the stability of the country, and create obstacles in the process of the transition to democracy.

The handout further states that, while the government and the political parties are making ardent efforts for the transition to democracy, all activities that disrupt the stability of the country are undesirable. It says that several meetings were held between the president, the prime minister, and the labor minister and the leaders of the joint council.

The handout states that a number of the demands made by the workers and employees joint council have already been met. These include [words indistinct] with the purpose of removing the obstacles in the way to free trade union activity and the repeal of Martial Law No 19. The repeal of the martial law order has restored the rights of the workers to hold strikes and meetings.

The government has appointed a national wages and productivity commission to fix a wage policy and also a minimum wage for the workers. The commission has already started operating from 1 March. The government employees will get an added 30 percent cost of living allowance in three installments for the period 1 July 1982 to 1 July 1983. A decision has also been taken to grant 30 percent cost of living allowance to workers of the private sector effective 1 January 1980.

The handout says that the government has accepted in principle to consider other demands of the workers.

AFP Terms 24-Hour Trade Union Strike Peaceful

BK281702 Hong Kong AFP in English 1653 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Dhaka, April 28 (AFP) — A 24-hour general strike called by the country's 13 trade unions went on peacefully today, however, disrupted transport systems and halted work in government offices and industrial establishments. The strike hit most government offices where attendances were very thin because employees were unable to turn up due to lack of transports. In Dhaka, as well as in other major cities of the country, buses were off the roads. The strike also disrupted the train communications and inland water transport system.

The strike followed a breakdown in negotiations Friday night on a package of five-point demand for increasings wages and establishing trade union rights. The workers and general employees of government, semi-government and private sector establishments including the railways unions which organised today's strike, demanded that the government should establish more industries by curbing "expenses on unproductive and non-essential sectors."

The trade unions are also pressing the government to reverse its policy of transferring public sector industries to private managemetns.

Meanwhile, the government in a handout tonight gave a detailed account of the measures it had taken to meet the demands of trade unions "within the limitations of the resources available." The government said it had already accepted a number of demands of the workers giving them back the right to resort to strike and appointed a national wages and productivity commission to fix minimum wages.

Omani Minister of State Arrives for Talks

BK271413 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] The minister of state for foreign affairs of Oman, Mr Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah, arrived in Dhaka today on a 3-day official visit to Bangladesh. The foreign minister, Mr A.R. Shamsud Doha, received the Omani minister at the Zia International Airport. Talking to newsmen at the airport he said he will discuss with the Bangladesh counterpart matters of mutual interest and the international situation with emphasis on the Muslim world.

Mr 'Abdallah said the Middle East situation in general, and the Iraq-Iran war in particular, will figure prominently at the talks.

Referring to the Egyptian move for bringing about an end to the Iran-Iraq war, the Omani state minister said his country will extend support to the efforts [words indistinct] chance of its success. He will call on the foreign minister, Mr A.R. Shamsud Doha, this evening which will be followed by formal talks between the two sides.

During his stay in the capital, the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs will also call on President Ershad and the education minister, Dr A. Majid Khan.

Communique Issued on Visit

BK290825 Dhaka BSS in English 0625 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] Dhaka, April 29 BSS — Bangladesh and Sultanate of Oman have renewed their call for complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab-occupied territories and creation of a separate homeland for Palestinians for durable peace in the Middle East.

This was contained in the joint communique issued here last evening at the end of the official 2-day visit of Omanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah, who went to Malaysia from Dhaka. He had come here from Pakistan.

The two foreign ministers called the current situation in the Middle East dangerous and explosive and also strongly condemned Israeli occupation of Lebanon. The Israelis must go from Lebanon and cease interfering in the strife-torn country.

The communique also dealt with the fratricidal Iran-Iraq war and issued to the countries fresh appeals for immediate cessation of the hostilities with an ultimate object of securing a peaceful, just and honourable solution to the disputes.

Besides, the two countries reiterated their demand for the immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from both Afghanistan and Kampuchea to enable the people of the countries to decide their destiny without interference and intervention from outside.

The two foreign ministers reiterated bilateral cooperation in different fields and held that both share views on international issues. He [as received] said Oman was prepared to support the Egyptian peace plan for ending Iran-Iraq war if it has the chance of a success.

Venkataraman on U.S.-PRC Nuclear Aid Accord

BK291629 Hong Kong AFP in English 1430 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] New Delhi, April 29 (AFP) — India will take whatever steps are necessary to safeguard its interests following the nuclear cooperation agreement between the United States and China that was announced on Friday, Defence Minister Ramaswamy Venkataraman said today.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported Mr Venkataraman as saying that India was not aware of the full implications of the agreement, which opens up the possibility of U.S. sales of nuclear reactors, materials and technology to China.

India was "naturally" worried by the agreement, the defence minister told reporters in Tanjore. His remarks were India's first official reaction to the accord.

China has its own nuclear weapons and is not a member of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

Defense Minister Cited on Situation With Pakistan

'Great Dangers'

BK270952 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] The defense minister, Mr Venkataraman, says India has no option but to increase its defense preparedness as the security environment all around has deteriorated. Addressing the biennual Air Force commanders' conference in New Delhi yesterday, he said India cannot afford the luxury of war when it has other urgent priorities like economic development. Pakistan is acquiring arms at a feverish pitch and soon a large number of aircraft will be inducted into its Air Force. Pakistan's Army and Navy are also being modernized. The desire for armaments arises from the chronic animosity toward India in spite of everything that we have done to live in peace with that country. The present situation, he said, poses great dangers from across our western borders.

Mr Venkataraman asked the Air Force commanders to ensure that the new weapons being acquired for the Indian Air Force [IAF] are put to optimum use. With the induction of Jaguars, MIG-23 and MIG-27, along with the impending induction of Mirage-2000, the IAF has taken a giant step into the contemporary world of sophistication. The transport fleet is being strengthened. The minister also expressed happiness at the improvement in flight safety record and the service rendered by the IAF in times of natural calamities.

'Trying To Invade Certain Parts'

BK301045 Hong Kong AFP in English 1038 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] New Delhi, April 30 (AFP) — The Indian defence minister has accused Pakistan of "trying to invade certain parts of India in collusion with other countries," PRESS TRUST OF INDIA said today.

Mr R. Venkataraman said certain powers, which he did not name, were stirring up trouble in several Indian states in order to "divide our country," PTI said.

The minister made the remarks yesterday at a district level meeting of the ruling Congress (I) Party in the southern state of Tamil Nadu.

His statements followed press reports that Sikh activists campaigning for more autonomy in Punjab, which borders Pakistan, were receiving help from Islamabad. Pakistan has denied the reports.

India and Pakistan have recently traded accusations that each is about to be invaded by the other. Both deny having any aggressive intentions.

The two countries have gone to war three times since winning independence from Britain in 1947.

Rajya Sabha Assured of Vigilance Against Sabotage

BK270940 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] The government assured the Rajya Sabha today that constant vigil is being maintained to counter attempts of sabotage and other prejudicial activities by illegal entrants from Pakistan. The house was also informed of several arrests made in this connection in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, and Gujarat.

The house was told that India welcomes the efforts at national reconciliation in Lebanon. It has always stood for a united, strong, and nonaligned Lebanon.

'Constant Watch' Kept on Sri Lanka Situation

BK270942 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] The government today reasured the Rajya Sabha that it is keeping a constant watch on the Sri Lanka situation. It will take such steps as are deemed necessary in the light of further developments in that country. The response came from the external affairs minister following the query if the government would raise the issue of mass killings of Tamils in Sri Lanka before the Human Rights Commission, the United Nations, and other international forums.

Venkataraman Rejects Plea To Send Army to Sri Lanka

BK290855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] The defense minister, Mr Venkataraman, has again rejected the plea to depute the Indian Army to Sri Lanka to save the Jaffna Tamils. Talking to newsmen in Tiruchirapalli today, Mr Venkataraman said that such a step will create power rivalry in the Indian Ocean region.

Commenting on the arms buildup of Pakistan, the defense minister said that India is ready to meet any eventuality.

Materials Dealing With Punjab Issue

Akali Dal Walkout

BK280912 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] In Amritsar yesterday, a number of Akali Dal members walked out from the meeting called by the party president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal. According to agency reports, earlier they expressed lack of confidence in his leadership. The meeting was called to make an assessment of the agitation.

Later talking to newsmen, Sant Longowal, in his appeal to jathedar [leaders] of the Akal Takhat [highest seat of the Sikh] said he is ready even to step down from party leadership for the sake of unity of the Sikh Panth [creed].

Referring to dissidents, he said certain forces are trying to drive a wedge between different Panthic [Sikh] organizations. He described the walkout as preplanned.

Akali Denial of Split

BK281619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] The Akali Dal today denied reports of the split in the party. In a press release in Amritsar, the party described the reports as baseless and misleading.

The release said the walkout by the Akali Dal, Talwandi group, from yesterday's meeting amounted to undermining the strength of the Panth. The Talwandi faction has joined the agitation at the appeal of the Akal Takhat chief. It hoped that the faction will desist from doing anything that may lead to a split in the Panth.

Clarifying the position, the party said that 29 of the total 35 members of the legislative assembly and 112 of the 130 Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] Committee members, besides 197 of the 250 jathedars attended yesterday's meeting. Fifteen district presidents and representatives of the youth wing and the women Akali Dal attended the 4-hour meeting called by Sant Longowal to make an assessment of the agitation.

According to an agency report, the five high priests of the Sikhs today had a meeting with the Akali Dal president, Sant Longowal, Sant Bhindranwale, and others. This is in response to the Akali Dal's appeal for intervention of the Akal Takhat to maintain unity of the Panth.

Meanwhile, the state CPI has described the report alleging split within the Akali Dal as a planned move to sabotage a political solution to the Punjab tangle. The secretary of the party, Mr Avtar Singh Malhotra, in a statement in Chandigarh, said this should be viewed along with the recent stepping up of terrorist activities as moves to prevent a solution. He said under the circumstances, the only remedy is to find a political solution and strengthen peace and amity in the state.

AFP Report

BK300747 Hong Kong AFP in English 0738 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] New Delhi, April 30 (AFP) — The Sikhs' highest religious body, the Akal Takhts, has failed to heal a rift between moderate and the militant Sikhs campaigning for Punjab's autonomy, local media reported today. Five Sikh high priests, who head the Akal Takhts, or Throne of the Immortal, met moderate chief Harchand Singh Longowal and militant leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale over the week-end but failed to get a rapprochement.

Both leaders refused to show flexibility and this could prove disastrous for the 22-month-old Sikh campaign, the *HINDU STAN TIMES* said in a dispatch from Sikh holy city of Amritsar, from where the drive for political, religious and other concessions is being directed. Differences between Mr. Longowal and Mr. Bhindranwale have been simmering for some time and climaxed earlier this month when the militant leader accused the moderates of hiring killers to slay him and his associates. The differences were echoed during a meeting of the Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, in Amritsar last week, when a large number of delegates walked out of the meeting and pledged support for 37-year-old Mr. Bhindranwale.

Analysts had said that with the effective leadership falling into the hands of Mr. Bhindranwale, who seeks to create a theocratic Sikh state, Punjab was in for more violence. Violence linked with the campaign has already claimed more than 400 lives.

The division in the leadership of the campaign had alarmed the majority of the Sikhs and the five priests of the Akal Takhts had announced that they would try to bring about a rapprochement between the two leaders. The reported failure of their efforts coincided with reports that more members of the Akali Dal and the Sikh campaign were joining hands with Mr. Bhindranwale, who openly preaches violence and says that he will rest only when "the Sikhs are freed from the shackle of slavery."

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported that "the list of defectors from the Akali Dal to the Bhindranwale camp continued to swell, further deepening the crisis." Two more prominent party leaders, Gurdev Singh Badal, a member of the Punjab state legislature and Jagdev Singh Kundian, a former top government official, have defected.

Rajiv's Arrival in Chandigarh

BK290859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] The All-India Congress Committee-I general secretary, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has arrived in Chandigarh to discuss the Punjab situation with the state party functionaries, including members of parliament and members of legislative assembly. He will also meet the Haryana chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, before returning to the capital in the evening.

Rajiv Talks With Newsmen

BK291605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] The All-India Congress-I Committee general secretary, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said the state administration has started getting a better grip over the situation in Punjab. A number of terrorists have been caught by police over the past 10 days. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh this evening, Mr Gandhi said different communities are living in amity in the state and only a handful of terrorists are perpetuating violence.

Replying to a question, he said the process of dialogue with the Akali Dal is on but he refused to disclose the level at which these are continuing. He, however, added the restoration of popular government in Punjab at the moment will not help find an early solution.

Mr Gandhi said that the press now has a special responsibility to present the truth before the people and not print anything which may inflame their passion.

Mr Gandhi, who was on a day's visit to Chandigarh, called on the Punjab governor, Mr B. D. Pande, and the Haryana chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, before returning to New Delhi.

Congress-I Contact Program

BK300305 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] The All-India Congress Committee-I general secretary, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said that his party will be launching a well-coordinated mass contact program in Punjab from the 15th of next month. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh, he said the program will go a long way in allaying the fears of the people, counter false propaganda by some vested interests, help finding a solution to the Punjab tangle, and strengthen communal harmony. He said this will be a purely peaceful program.

The aim of his visit to Chandigarh was to seek the maximum involvement of all sections of his party in the implementation of his program.

Chandigarh Curfew Extension

BK291249 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] In Chandigarh, the night curfew has been further extended till the 6th of next month. The duration has, however, been curtailed to 6 hours from 2200 to 0400. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that this has been done as a precautionary measure. The ban on pillion riding has been extended till 3 June, and the ban on the assembly of five or more persons, taking out of procession and raising of slogans in public places, has been extended till the 18th of next month.

The spokesman clarified that the ban on pillion riding will not apply to women and children.

Amritsar Killings

BK300851 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] In Amritsar, a retired deputy superintendent of police [DSP], Giani Basant Singh, and his gunmen were killed by some extremists this morning. The wife and the daughter of the former DSP were also seriously injured in the incident. The victims were going in a rickshaw when they were attacked near the local hospital. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, this is the third attack on the DSP. In one of the previous attacks, one of his sons was killed.

Congress-I Secures Absolute Majority in Mizoram

BK291259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The Congress-I has secured absolute majority in the elections to the Mizoram assembly. Out of the 26 results announced so far, the party has won 16 seats in the 30-member house. The ruling People's Conference has been pushed to the second position with 8 seats. The Mizo Convention Party and an independent get 1 seat each.

'Thousands' of Refugees Arrive From Afghanistan

BK300251 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] According to reports, thousands of Afghan refugees have come to Pakistan in recent weeks to escape heavy Soviet bombardment in the Qandahar region. The reports say that at least 1,000 families have left their homes from villages near Qandahar during the last 2 weeks and that more Afghan people are coming to Pakistan to seek shelter.

Japan's Nakasone Arrives in Islamabad 30 April

BK301622 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone was accorded a very grand welcome when he arrived in Islamabad this afternoon an a 4-day state visit to Pakistan. Japanese Prime Minister and Madame Nakasone were received by the President and Mrs Ziaul Haq when they alighted from the plane. Two children presented bouquets to the distinguished guests. A large number of people present at the airport chanted welcoming slogans as soon as the Japanese prime minister came out of his plane, and he was given a 19-gun salute. The national anthems of the two countries were played and contingent of the three services presented him a guard of honor.

In a statement at the airport, Nakasone said that Japan and Pakistan are tied to each other in strong relations of friendship. He said that he will exchange views with the Pakistani president on the international situation and bilateral relations which will be beneficial for peace and stability in Asia and the world.

Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone met with President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening.

Radio Pakistan's representative says that Pakistan and Japan adhere to a principled stand on Afghanistan and Kampuchea and they hold identical views on the Iran-Iraq war. Trade between the two countries has been increasing during the past few years. The inaugural meeting of the joint commission of Pakistan and Japan, which was set up during the Pakistani president's visit to Japan last year, will be held in Islamabad tomorrow. The foreign ministers of the two countries will lead their delegations at the meeting.

Ziaul Haq Reviews Arrangements for Elections

BK291648 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq met with the chief election commissioner, Mr Justice S.A. Nusrat, in Rawalpindi today. He had a detailed review of the arrangements for holding free and fair elections in the country. The president was shown some samples of the electoral rolls. The president on the whole expressed satisfaction with them. He, however, directed that some of the electoral rolls which were illegible should be reprinted as soon as possible.

The chief election commissioner explained the various steps that are being taken to obtain the services of officials and personnel on election duty. The president directed that they should be given timely and appropriate training so they will fulfill their election responsibilities in complete conformity with the law. He proposed that the Election Commision arrange a training seminar by July this year for the senior officials who will be entrusted with the election repsonsibilities. The president took keen interest in provision of an ample quantity of ballot boxes and the arrangement for the secure printing of large numbers of ballot papers. The president said that he will soon visit the Election Commission again to review the pace of work. The meeting was attended among others by the federal law and parliamentary affairs minister, Sharifuddin Pirzada.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani's Friday Prayers Sermon

LD271345 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Excerpts] On the anniversary of the martyrdom of the seventh bright star in the sky of the imamate and religious leadership, His Holiness Imam Musa al-Kazim, peace be upon him, millions of Muslim compatriots today held the political-religious ceremonies of the Fridy prayers throughout the country.

Tehran University and nearby streets, just as on previous Fridays, today witnessed the extensive presence of the Muslim people of Tehran, who are always on the scene, in the glorious Fridy prayers ceremonies. They held this great ritual under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Regarding the issues of the day, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: [Begin recording] I will talk briefly about the bombing of Piranshah, the explosion of a ship in the Persian Gulf, the movements we are witnessing in the region, and the move made yesterday in European countries by the counterrevolutionaries with the coordination of world arrogance, in which they attacked several centers of the Islamic Republic; the main part of my discussion is about the Tabas incident. We should ponder on this a little and to see what happened. These incidents are related to the Tabas incident itself to some extent. The agents of America made these moves in this context because we approached the anniversary of America's disgrace in Tabas and because they wanted to overshadow that incident: When a huge tanker explodes in the Persian Gulf in order to attract the world's attention to the danger from the region, when they pound Piranshah in Kordestan like that, and when several centers of the Islamic Republic in the world are simultaneously occupied, all these make such news that the Tabas incident is lost temporarily and its anniversary goes unnoticed. That is what they think, but we enliven the issue a bit. This is not going to be lost; this must be recorded in history as a great document testifying to American incompetence and disgrace, and we must emphasize it.

Then we have an English newspaper carrying a false report to the effect that within the next 2 years Iran will manufacture an atomic bomb. These are the people who used to claim that we are ignorant people, incapable of even riding a bicycle. Now they are making these claims. Needless to say, they are lying, for it is not clear whether we are going to have an atomic bomb so soon. However, let them be scared. After all, we have no objection if this news report scares them.

What has happened in the Persian Gulf is not yet clear. A big ship carrying oil, which had come from Bahrain and had loaded oil from Khark and was heading toward Dubayy — the ship belongs to Saudi Arabia while the oil belongs to other countries — has caught fire; the captain first said it was caused by a missile, but it is not clear yet because the ship is still burning and they have not managed to discover everything yet; some said it was an explosion. Things are not clear yet. It is highly probable that it was a missile, but it is situated 250 km from Khark, that is, Iraq does not dare approach Khark. If so, it must have been from inside the southern Persian Gulf countries. They have come from this side and have either exploded the ship — or it has exploded itself — in the waters 240 km southeast of Khark.

By adding this incident to the Piranshah incident, what do they intend to do? Saddam's policy is to seek adventure in order to involve other countries in the war. He intends to frighten the southern Gulf countries. Of course, we have assured them and they know — if they do not know they should know — that Iran is not threatening to make the region unsafe; those who treat us well can live well with us.

We are waiting for the incident to be made clear. If the ship was hit — even if it is a Saudi Arabian ship — in Iranian waters and in the vicinity of Khark Island, although it was nearer to Ra's at-Tanurah in Saudi Arabia, it is 100 km from them and is 170 km from Bushehr and 240 km from Khark, it concerns us. If they think that by such incidents we will suddenly grab the Hormuz Strait and what they want will happen, that will not be the case; that is what Iraq wants; we know the right time for every action; in every stage we have chosen, and hold ready, the suitable response for that stage. [end recording]

In continuation of the second sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The attacks launched by our enemies on the centers and representative offices of the Islamic Republic of Iran are indicative of their absolute weakness and show the despair and despondency of our enemies, because they have no hopes in Iran or outside Iran. As you witnessed, despite their hollow threats the elections were held in the best possible manner.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed: If the European countries refuse to try and find the assailants that attacked the centers and representative offices of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we will do this ourselves.

Attacks on Iranian Missions Abroad Reported

LD271354 Tehran IRNA in English 1312 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] London, April 27, IRNA — Eleven U.S.-backed counterrevolutionary elements, who had attacked the Iranian Consulate in London Thursday, were subdued by the staff of the consulate and handed over to the police last night.

The consulate officials of the Islamic Republic have urged the British police to punish and expel the counterrevolutionaries as well as condemn such terroristic acts.

Tens of reporters had gathered in front of the consulate building to cover the dissidents' assault and their subsequent eviction from the consulate.

At a press conference held at the Islamic Republic Embassy here following the incident, Iran's charge d'affaires in London, Mr Sadatian, condemned the negligence of the British police in providing security for the consulate and other places belonging to Iran. He also called on England to punish the terrorists and expel them from that country.

Sadatian showed the reporters some documents which indicated that a number of the counterrevolutionaries had been granted

political asylum by France and had French Government help in entering England and possibly cooperation of the British Government.

Meanwhile, a report from Paris said that the seizure of the Iranian representative office in UNESCO there by 12 anti-revolutionaries was ended Thursday afternoon following negotiation between the occupiers and the security police of the UNESCO building.

The Iranian representative to UNESCO talking to IRNA in Paris said that the occupation of Iran's UNESCO office involved a pre-planned plot. He added that the simultaneity of presence of reporters in front of UNESCO with the seizure of Iran's office indicated foreknowledge by the media of the plot. He also said that the counterrevolutionaries had stole some cultural and scientific documents from his office.

The Iranian representative further added that the attack was not only a transgression upon the Islamic Republic but also against UNESCO. This issue, he concluded, was presented to the UNESCO's director general in a letter.

This report noted that the French police have not arrested any of the attackers.

Also, on Thursday, some U.S. inspired elements attacked Iran's embassy in the Hague injuring the Islamic Republic's ambassador in Holland, who was embassy employee, smashed equipment in the building as well as stole some documents and money from the embassy.

Iran's prime minister, Mr-Hoseyn Musavi, in a statement Wednesday, cautioned the United States for infringing the Algiers accord and manipulating the International Court of the Hague. He also chided the Netherland's Government for making prejudicial decisions against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In another development yesterday the counterrevolutionary splinter groups, having been totally defeated and dissolved in Iran, attacked the Iranian Air Lines office in Frankfurt injuring the head of the office, who was hospitalized for his injuries.

In his attack, caried out in the presence of several German policemen stationed a short distance from the place, the terrorists clashed with the staff of the office. They also inflicted some damages on the equipment there.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman of the Islamic Republic in a statement last night said that the U.S. had instigated these terroristic attacks on the Iranian missions abroad, on the anniversary of the Tabas fiasco, and in a vain attempt to mar the recent successful Majlis elections in Iran.

London Envoy Delivers Majlis Speaker's Message

LD271219 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the charge d'affaires at the Iranian Embassy in London, in a meeting with the speaker of the British House of Commons, yesterday delivered a message to him from Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, on the crimes perpetrated by the Iraqi Zionist regime and condemning the Saddam regime for employing chemical weapons against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Oil Ministry Experts Put Out Fire on Saudi Tanker

LD281006 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 28, IRNA — The Oil Ministry in a statement issued here today said that experts of the ministry put out the fire on the Saudi registered oil tanker, *Safina al-Arab*, at 22:30 local time (19:00 GMT) Friday.

It said that some five salvage tugs, one personnel carrier vessel, were involved in the operation.

The Saudi registered tanker was carrying 357,000 tons of crude oil, was ablaze in an area some one hundred miles south of the Iranian Khark Terminal around 24:00 hours local time Wednesday (21:30 GMT).

According to the statement the tugs were now transférring the damaged parts of the ship to a proper place for further investigation.

Turkish Businessman Wounded in Assassination Attempt

LD281653 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 28, IRNA — A 45-year-old Turkish businessman suffered serious head wounds in an assassination attempt on his life, here this morning.

The wounded Turkish businessman, Isik Yonder was shot at by a passing motorcycle rider while driving to his place of business.

He was immediately rushed to a Tehran hospital where his condition is reported to be critical.

Several unsuccessful assassination attempts by terrorists have also been made against Turkish diplomats in Iran.

AFP: Armenian Group Claim

NC281033 Paris AFP in English 1023 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 28 (AFP) — A Turkish national was shot and critically wounded in the Iranian capital this morning, where Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal was due later today on an official visit.

Shortly afterwards the attack was claimed in telephone calls to the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE bureau here and in Paris by anonymous callers who said they spoke for the Secret Armenian Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA), an underground separatist group. The victim, Isik Yonder, was shot in the head as he drove along one of the city's main streets.

Mr. Yonder, whose wife works in the Turkish Embassy here, was rushed to hospital, where his condition was said to be critical.

The anonymous caller in Tehran said the action had been carried out against Mr. Yonder, "a mercenary employed by the Turkish intelligence services" in protest at today's "criminal visit by the Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal."

(In the call to AFP's Paris bureau, the spokesman said the attack was "dedicated to the Martyrs K. Havarian and V. Ayvasian by the suicide group Sourig Krikorian.")

(He said, "We warn the Iranian Government from taking any harsh measures against our people and we assure that the fate of Ozal arriving in Tehran today will be the same as Mr. Yonder.")

Iran has a large Armenian population and there have been repeated Armenian attacks against Turkish diplomats. Today's attack came four days after the 69th anniversary of a massacre of Armenians in 1915.

In Ankara, the Turkish state news agency ANATOLIA reported that Prime Minister Turgut Ozal had arrived on an official visit to Tehran three hours after the attack.

(In a report by the agency's correspondent with Mr. Ozal in Tehran, the prime minister was quoted as saying: "We hope that Iranian authorities will take the necessary measures against these attacks."

Armenian terrorists have committed more than 80 attacks against Turkish diplomats since 1973, killing 38 Turkish officials, and 9 foreigners. More than 200 Turks and foreigners were wounded in the attacks.

Turkish Prime Minister Arrives for 3-Day Visit

LD281013 Tehran IRNA in English 0935 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 28, IRNA — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal arrived here Saturday at the head of a high-ranking economic, trade and parliamentary delegation for a three-day visit.

Prime Minister Ozal and his entourage here welcomed at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi and a number of other officials.

During his stay here, the Turkish prime minister would discuss with his Iranian counterpart and other authorities of the Islamic Republic, present trade, economic and transportation relations as well as exploring avenues to further expand such mutual ties. In addition to officials from ministries of commerce, industries, energy and Turkey's parliament, a group of tradesmen and representatives of commercial firms are accompanying the Turkish prime minister.

A Turkish economic delegation, led by the State Minister Ismail Ozdaglar, arrived here April 23, is currently here to discuss improving of trade between the two countries.

Ozal, Musavi Airport Remarks

LD281238 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] The Turkish prime minister, Turgut Ozal, at the head of a delegation of high-ranking political and economic officials, arrived in Tehran this morning and was welcomed at the airport by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi and Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi.

The Turkish prime minister said in a speech on his arrival: [Begin recording in Turkish with Persian translation superimposed] We hope to be able to further expand cooperation between Iran and Turkey. Compared to 1981, trade between the two countries has increased more than threefold and this is the highest figure in the history of trade between the two countries. The expansion of cooperation between the two governments will also further strengthen relations between the Turkish and Iranian nations and visits made by high-ranking officials will from now on continue at a more extensive level.

The joint economic commissions have had talks in Tehran on preparing the ground for more economic cooperation and these talks are currently continuing in Tehran.

I hope my journey to your country will bring about the means to change the current war between the two Muslim countries to peace and tranquillity in the future. If this war does not lead to a just peace, in addition to the interests of the Iranian and Iraqi nations, the interests of the world of Islam will also be endangered. [end recording]

In his speech, the Turkish prime minister condemned the use of chemicals in war; he refrained from making any reference to the user of chemicals in the war. At the end of his speech, he wished the Iranian nation success and victory.

Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi then replied to questions from our correspondent about the journey of the high-ranking Turkish delegation to our country: [Begin recording] [Passage indistinct] The bulk of our trade with Turkey has increased very much. The goods we used to buy from big powers, Europe and America, we now buy from our neighboring country and this is a big gain for the two nations which are in the great Islamic community.

His excellency made a reference to the war between Iran and Iraq. It would be appropriate to raise the point here that by no means do we agree with any aggressive spirit in the region and in order for a strong and permanent peace to exist in the region — on whose basis and under whose shadow the region's Muslim countries will be able to grow and rely on one another instead of relying on big powers — we think the aggressor must receive just punishment for his own deeds so that the roots of aggression in the region will be stamped out. I hope the honorable Turkish prime minister's journey will further expand our relations with this friendly country. We believe that the nearness of Islamic countries to one another will in fact make them overcome the need to rely on big powers. [end recording]

IRNA Report

LD281556 Tehran IRNA in English 1530 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 28, IRNA — The Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, who arrived here this morning heading a delegation, said that economic relations between the two countries had expanded immensely in the past few years.

The Turkish prime minister who was speaking at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport where he was welcomed by his Iranian counterpart, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, further added that the volume of Turkey's exports to Iran prior to the victory of the Feb. 79 Islamic Revolution was only $20 million a year. However, the figure rose to $1.8 billion in 1983, and the figure of imports from Iran rose to $1.147 billion, he added.

As for the objective of his trip he said it aimed at expanding bilateral trade relations, further consolidation of mutual relations and also discussing of regional issues.

The Turkish prime minister expressed opposition of his government against use of chemical weapons and bombardment of civilian areas in the course of the Iraqi imposed war. He stressed that deployment of toxic chemical weapons was in violation of internationally recognised regulations.

Mr Ozal said also that certain acts were taking place against the embassy staffers of his country in several countries, and in Iran too. He hoped that Iran would take the necessary measures on the issue.

Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi in response noted that before the victory of the Islamic revolution, big powers specially European countries and the U.S. had cornered the market on Iran's foreign trade but at present neighbouring country of Turkey was among Iran's largest trading partners.

Commenting on the Iraqi imposed war, Premier Musavi said that Iran has not and never intends to resort to any adventurism nor does it have aggressive designs on any territory in the region. He said that Iran desires a continuous peace which could be developed only through coordination and cooperation among all Muslim nations of the region, without being inclined to the big powers. The aggressor, he said, should be punished for its acts so that the root of aggression be uprooted in the region.

Prime Minister Musavi hoped that the meeting with his Turkish counterpart would serve to further expand the ties between the two countries.

First Round of Talks

LD291307 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, who has come to Iran at the head of a high-ranking political-economic delegation, last night began his first round of talks with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi.

In the course of this meeting, at which the representatives of the two countries' political and economic delegations were also present, talks were held on ways of expanding commercial and economic relations, important regional issues, and the intervention of the superpowers in the affairs of Muslim countries. The Turkish Prime minister spoke of the remarkable changes in the infrastructure of the Iranian economy in comparison with the pre-Islamic Revolution era and announced the cordial intention of the Turkish Government to expand cooperation between the two countries in transporation, railways, highways, development of ports,and telecommunication. The Turkish prime minister said that one of the most important ways of bringing unity to the Islamic countries is the overall expansion of economic and commercial links among them. He expressed the willingness of his country to construct the Iran-Turkey gas pipeline to be extended to European countries in the future.

Continuing his remarks, he emphasized that the Turkish delegation was not a mission on the imposed war, and he outlined Turkey's stance regarding continuation of the imposed war.

Afterward, expounding on relations between Iran and Turkey, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said: Closer ties between us, two small family members of the world's 1 billion Muslims, and the broad prospects for the huge potential of wealth and creative power of the Muslim masses, is undoubtedly opposed by major powers. For instance, since the beginning of the Islamic Revolution's victory, the major powers have tried hard to depict our government as an interfering government in the region, while we, during the past few years and in various ways have shown other countries, even those which are surrounding us and have assisted the aggressive Ba'thist regime, that we have no other intentions but to restore friendly and fraternal relations with them. Expanding relations with you and neighboring Muslim countries can reflect our intentions.

Mir-Hoseyn Musavi afterward enumerated possibilities for expanding relations between Iran and Turkey in various fields, reiterating: The Planned expansion of these relations is within the framework of the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy to expand economic links with Muslim countries.

About the imposed war, our country's prime minister said: As we have repeatedly announced, both from the ideological and economic points of view, we prefer peace to a continuation of the war, but our very wide and valid experience shows that any kind of peace that keeps Saddam's regime in power is dangerous for the region. We are certain that the Muslim combative forces will soon end all the worries about the danger of Saddam's regime to the region.

We remind our listeners that this is the first official visit abroad for Turgut Ozal since his election as prime minister of Turkey.

Deputy Minister Speaks at Geneva Conference

LD271718 Tehran IRNA in English 1659 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 27, IRNA — The arguments of the superpowers over chemical weapons and their varied schemes for

preventing its application is in reality "hypocritical pretentions by the world powers which are themselves the principal producers of chemical weapons" according to Iran's representative at the Geneva conference, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam.

Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iran's deputy foreign minister in charge of political affairs, who was speaking at the Geneva Disarmament Conference Thursday, questioned the good will of the superpowers in their apparent efforts for preventing the application of chemical weapons, noting that by feigning concern over the issue the superpowers were putting on masks and facades in order to protect themselves against global protest.

Said the Iranian participant at the conference, "However, can we take for granted the good will of the United States, a country which has considered about seven billion dollars for its production of chemical weapons in 1987, in its avowed concern for banning chemical weapons? However can we justify the banning of chemical weapons in Europe but endorse its production and stock-piling in the Middle East?"

The Iranian representative reminded in his address to the chairman of the conference that a "great contrast" between words and deeds has blurred the atmosphere of international conferences and that the situation is gradually "extinguishing the last rays of hope" about the possible accomplishments of such conferences.

Sheykh ol-Eslam also criticised the Non-aligned Movement for brushing aside the issue of Baghdad's application of chemical weapons against the Iranian combatants in the battlefronts accusing the movement of ignoring a 1970-Ozaka document signed by the non-aligned nations which expressly bans production, proliferation and stock-piling of chemical weapons. He said the Baghdad regime is not technically capable of manufacturing the simplest of chemical weapons and that the governments which have provided Iraq with such lethal weapons are as much responsible to the world community of nations as is the Baghdad regime. The Iranian representative at the conference said that "due to humanistic considerations,: Iran would not seek to retaliate despite enjoying the right to do so.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry representative also noted that agreements signed on paper and unprotected by sanctions would not have the least value. He called on the disarmament conference to formulate a clear-cut global control system whereby to ensure that toxic and chemical weapons are not produced, or provided to any government by any sources, or applied under any circumstances whatsoever.

Toward the end of his address to the conference, the Iranian Foreign Ministry official also extended an appreciation to the UN's Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, and a UN probe team to Tehran (March 1984) in connection with Baghdad's application of chemical weapons and also offered his thanks to the countries which have admitted and provided medical help to Iranian victims of chemical weapons.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,709

LD271725 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,709 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] At 0736 this morning, the brave pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with two fighter planes, attacked and destroyed an enemy missile launcher and a radar system in the (Ra's al-Bishah) region. They returned safely to base.

In the Piranshah, Hajj 'Umran, and Sar Dasht operational sectors during the past 24 hours, the combatants of Islam pounded enemy positions, killing a number of Iraqi troops and halting the activities of the enemy's engineering equipment and ground formations. In the Marivan and Panjwin operational theater, our combative forces opened fire on enemy artillery emplacements and trenches and silenced enemy fire. The Saddamist forces suffered some losses.

Fire exchanges continued along the Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts. On these fronts, our units consolidated their defensive positions, dispatched reconnaisance patrol groups, set up listening and observation posts, and searched for mines along various axes. By opening fire on enemy defensive positions, tank and artillery emplacements and supply routes, they neutralized all enemy activities. Fire exchanges continued in the southern operational theater yesterday, being more intense in the Majnun Islands and Kushk region. Thanks to the fire of our forces on enemy positions on the western banks of the Arvand Rud, five slit trenches of the Iraqi infantry troops were destroyed.

Yesterday, various districts of Abadan came under enemy long-range heavy artillery fire which damaged 25 houses and 7 shops.

Communique No 1,710

LD281725 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,710 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] At 1008 today, one of the aggressive Iraqi planes belonging to the Iraqi Air Force, a MIG-23, was hit by the fire of the fast-flying fighter planes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the border region of Marivan and was downed.

During the past 24 hours, sporadic exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued along the northwestern fronts of the country between our forces and that of the enemy. The powerful combatants of Islam silenced the fire of the Iraqi

forces,stopped the movement of their vehicles, and killed or wounded more than 35 Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist mercenaries. Also, in destroying parts of their forward positions, our forces destroyed one heavy mortar of the Saddamists. In the Marivan and Panjwin areas, the aggressive Ba'thist forces of Iraq sustained considerable damage and casualties.

On the border fronts of Bakhtaran, Ilam, and the southern parts of the country, the battle between our forces and the enemy continued in the form of defensive combat. The victorious forces of Islam, while fortifying and completing their defensive positions, opened fire on enemy units, motorized columns and positions, set fire to personnel positions and weapon emplacements,and killed a number of them.

In the Majnun Island area, the fire exchanges were more intense than on other southern fronts. On the Abadan and Khorrmashahr fronts, the combatants of Islam kept an eye on and stopped enemy movements and troop deployments. The Gendarmerie warriors succeeded in destroying more than 11 heavy and light weapons emplacements together with some of their crews.

Yesterday the city of Abadan came under sporadic enemy long-range weapons fire, as a result of which a number of houses and stores and one school were damaged. One of our dear compatriots was wounded.

Communique No 1,711

LD201722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,711 of Joint Staff of Armed forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] At 1555 yesterday, an enemy helicopter was shot down by the air defense units of the forces of Islam in the Abadan sector.

During the past 24 hours in the Piranshah, Sar Dasht, Hajj 'Umran, Marivan, and Panjwin operational sectors, while defending their positions and sectors, our mighty combatants fired on enemy fortifications, troop concentrations and trenches, destroying 30 slit trenches, 10 observations posts, an ammunition dump, and a mortar, and killing or injuring dozens of Saddamists.

On the Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts, exchanges of fire continued between our forces and the enemy across the front lines, being more intense in Qasr-e Shirin, Paveh, Mehran, and Dehloran. Observed enemy losses in the western operational theater were one motor pool, four slit trenches, and an observation post.

During exchanges of fire on the banks of the Arvand Rud, the combatants of Islam fired on enemy positions, destroying nine slit trenches and foxholes and disrupting enemy trench-digging activities, patrol operations, and fortifications along the defensive lines. Yesterday enemy long-range heavy weapons fire on the residential areas of Abadan caused damage to 18 houses and 5 shops.

USSR, DRA Offensive in Panjsher Valley Fails

LD271805 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Voice and Vision of Islamic Republic of Iran correspondent dispatch from New Delhi]

[Text] The huge and extensive offensive by the Soviet invader forces and Karmal mercenaries which began on 20 April to capture the important and strategic Panjsher valley — supported by hundereds of fighter planes, helicopters, artillery, and tanks — has failed.

With their just and brave defense against the recent enormous offensive by the joint Soviet invading forces and Afghan Government forces in Panjsher valley, Muslim Afghan revolutionaries succeeded in halting these forces, which are equipped with the latest weaponry and which aimed to crush the Muslim Afghan nation, in the areas of (Tabakht) and Rokhah, according to reports reaching New Delhi from Kabul.

In the course of the Muslim revolutionaries pushing back the Soviet and Afghan Government forces, and during the seventh offensive of these forces, 700 troops of the Afghan Government forces led by Major Jalaluddin (Barakt) have joined the Muslim revolutionaries.

To strengthen and support Afghan Muslim revolutionaries in the Panjsher valley, a 10,000-strong force of Muslim revolutionaries from the Nurestan area have been sent to the valley. They are now fighting in the forward lines of the front against the Soviet invaders and mercenaries of the regime ruling Afghanistan.

Latest reports reaching New Delhi from Kabul say that Panjsher valley is in the hands of Afghan Muslim revolutionaries.

Mujahidin Kill More Than 1,600

GF290706 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 29 Apr

[Text] The Muslim Afghan revolutionaries have killed more than 1,600 members of the Soviet invasion forces and the ruling regime in Afghanistan. By this attack, they foiled a large offensive launched by these forces on the Panjshir valley.

Khomeyni Addresses Leaders on Elections

LD291459 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni address to visiting clergymen and civilian and military officials, including President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Supreme Court President Musavi-Ardabili, and Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran on occasion of anniversary of prophet's mission 29 April; duration 25 minutes — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I congratulate you on this great anniversary. Today, we are

facing the same problems as then; the same problems with which they used to be afflicted are now, in a different situation, facing us. However, these problems, considering the (?change in conditions), are more widespread.

If in those days the Prophet and Imam 'Ali, peace be upon them, were facing certain restrictions [words indistinct], which prevented them from achieving their (?goals); if we now see the (?consequences) afflicting the entire world, today Islam is facing a more widespread problem. In those days, they [as heard] prevented the materialization of an Islamic government in the name of Islam. Today too we are facing the same sort of people who, in the name of Islam, intend to prevent the realization of an Islamic government. There is a group of people who are both oblivious and ignorant and there is a group of individuals who transgress ethical principles.

We should pay attention to our responsibilities. You should not imagine that the hands of superpowers have been cut off from here. The Iranian nation should realize that conspirators are (?around) now. You see that in the elections which were carried out so well and with such freedom — we hope that the second round of elections to be held later will be attended as well and that the people will act according to their holy duties — there were hands both inside the country and abroad that tried to create conflicts among the people taking part in the elections. You know that foreigners and their lackeys would like to stage a coup d'etat in this country, but they cannot and never will. They cannot enter a country where everyone is prepared for martyrdom. So they try to [word indistinct] us from inside the country.

One of the cases where the hands of the foreigners are at work and are busy conspiring is to create (?conflicts) between those who have won the elections and those who have lost. This ugly talk of losing, winning, victory and defeat, these ugly interpretations are used to create conflicts in our nation. Elections which should unite people in trying to carry them out properly, elections which should increase unity among the people, are made the cause of conflicts, God forbid. This is one of the tricks of the satan done by the hands of devils.

One should not be concerned with being elected to the Majlis or being elected president or appointed minister. If one is concerned about these issues, then one has not understood Islam fully. You are Shi'ites, like me. I place as much value on these positions as I do on these old shoes, unless that position fulfills a just cause. You, who are trying to fulfill a just cause, you who are trying to advance the cause of Islam, should do so wherever you are, in the Majlis, in the schools, or other places, regardless. You should take care not to bring about the same problems of the past. God willing, we will not face the same problems. Tomorrow the mass media will probably claim that the elections are chaotic and the government has not [word indistinct], but they will take these dreams to their graves with them. [shouts of "God is great"]

What I am saying is not about a situation prevailing now. I want to stop any kind of corruption that these people are instigating. They should not imagine that something is afoot in Iran. Iran has held free elections unprecedented in the world. [Shouts of "God is great, Death to those opposing clerical rule, Death to America, Death to the Soviet Union, Death to the hypocrites and Saddam, Death to Israel"]

The situation is not such that some people could take advantage. No, such a time will never come and those people would never be able to take advantage of the situation. There is no problem. I am cautioning the officials in case such a situation arises. In any case, I should point out that those gentlemen who took part in the elections should do so again in all sincerity. You should never be deterred because you lost the elections. You are all brothers and friends, it does not matter which friend is in the Majlis, this or that.

You see now that peace seekers have gathered together; America has gone to China and they read poetry to each other, they talk about peace and calm. This is the situation in the world; they [words indistinct] but we, who are really seeking it, are topped. So, we should take note of the issues ourselves. We should try to protect the nation ourselves. God willing, just as we successfully rid Iran of the monarchic evil, we will save Iran from the evil of this corrupt Ba'thist regime.

May God grant you all success. May God grant us success in serving. May God support you all and give you victory in the war between Iran and Iraq. Peace be upon you all.

Guardians Council Declares Shiraz Elections Invalid

LD282056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] The Council of Guardians met this morning and continued investigations concerning elections to the second Majlis. It was the majority view that elections in the Shiraz constituency were invalid. Investigations of other files are continuing, and an announcement will be made in due course.